In The United States Patent And Trademark Office

Applicants:	Daniel L. Auclair, Jeffrey Craig, John S. Mangan, Robert D. Norman, Daniel C. Guterman and Sanjay Mehrotra
Assignee:	SanDisk Corporation

Title: Soft Errors Handling in EEprom Devices

Application No.:	09/437,078	Filing Date:	November 9, 1999
Examiner:	Moise, Emmanuel Lionel	Group Art Unit:	2133
Docket No.:	SNDK.026US5 (formerly M-10202-5C US)	Conf. No.:	7501

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

These remarks are in response to the final Official Action mailed on May 5, 2003, and for which a one-month extension is hereby requested. The Office Action rejected claims 37 and 39-50 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, on the basis of a lack of support for independent claims 37, 39, 42 and 46. This is respectfully submitted to be in error for the reasons given below and the present Response is being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interview of September 4, 2003, where the relation and uses of the various levels shown in Figure 10 of the present application were discussed. This discussion is presented in expanded form in the following. As will be described, the Applicants believe that all of the pending claims are fully supported by the present application.

Support for Claims

Referring to Figure 10 of the present application, the relationship of a number of the voltage levels employed in the present application are shown for a binary memory embodiment, with exemplary values given below in Figure 11. The middle value, V_R, is used